

Response Under 37 CFR 1.116

Expedited Procedure

Examining Group 1732

Appl. No. 09/714,424

Amdt. AF dated 10-23-2003

Reply to Final Office Action of 04-22-2003

Attorney Docket No. 1836-001630

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 12-20 are currently pending in this application.

The final Office Action of April 23, 2003, has been reviewed and the Examiner's comments carefully considered. Claims 1-10, 12-15 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for asserted unpatentability over U.S. Patent No. 6,395,798 to Younes. Claim 20 stands allowed.

Applicants acknowledge the allowability of claim 20 and, in order to expedite allowance of the present application, Applicants cancel herewith claims 1-10 and 12-19 without prejudice in order to prosecute these claims in a continuing application. Additionally, claim 20 has been amended to correct a typographical error.

A Notice of Appeal is filed concurrently herewith.

Based on the foregoing, the application is deemed to be in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

WEBB ZIESENHEIM LOGSDON
ORKIN & HANSON, P.C.

By Gwen R. Acker Wood

Gwen R. Acker Wood

Registration No. 51,027

Attorney for Applicants

700 Koppers Building

436 Seventh Avenue

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219-1818

Telephone: 412-471-8815

Facsimile: 412-471-4094